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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Sheet 1 of 1

*Complete if Known*

Application Number	09/847,236
Filing Date	05/02/2001
First Inventor	Jerry W. Schoen
Art Unit	1736
Examiner Name	John P. Sheehan
Attorney Docket No.	A2714

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Pages, columns, lines where relevant passages or relevant figures appear
		US 4,456,812	06-26-1984	Neiheisel	
		US 5,779,819	07-14-1998	Huppi	
		US 7,377,986	05-27-2008	Schoen et al.	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>2</sup> - Number <sup>3</sup> - Kind Code <sup>4</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Pages, columns, lines where relevant passages or relevant figures appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		JP 93078743	03-30-1993	Nippon Steel Corp.		
		JP 97049022	02-18-1997	Nippon Steel Corp.		
		JP 9804297	02-17-1998	Nippon Steel Corp.		
		JP 10102150	04-21-1998	Kawasaki Steel Corp.		
		KR 023944251	05-09-2006			

**OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>6</sup>
		International Search Report dated 10/07/2002 for Application No. PCT/US02/12623.	
		International Preliminary Examination Report dated 06/05/2003 for Application No. PCT/US02/12623.	
		Written Opinion dated 12/16/2002 for Application No. PCT/US02/12623.	

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).

<sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04.

<sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3).

<sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

<sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible.

<sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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